THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) Pursuant to the recommendations of the Committee on Public Undertakings, contained in its Fortieth Report, Govt. took a policy decision to make preferential purchases of textile items, including blankets, from National Textile Corporation/ British India Corporation on a single tender basis. The extra expenditure referred to was caused by this conscious policy decision, and is not in the nature of a loss.

Break in Service of a High Court Judge of Madhya Pradesh

4433. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Justice B.M. Lal of the Madhya Pradesh High Court after four years of being a non-confirmed Additional Judge became the junior-most Judge of the Bench on May 15th, 1988 due to a "break in service" of a few hours, for no fault of his;

(b) whether Government realises the seriousness of the impact on Indian Judiciary of such a treatment of a High Court Judge; if so, what remedial steps are being taken in this regard; and

(c) the authority upon whom has the responsibility been fixed of this sort of "break in service" of a High Court Judge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (c) Shri Justice B.M Lal was appointed as Additional Judge of Madhya Pradesh High Court for two years initially and continued as such upto 13-5-1988 on yearly basis in terms of Article 224 (1) of the Constitution. He was again appointed as Additional Judge with effect from 15-5-1988 for a year. On 14-5-1988, he did no function as an Additional Judge. His appointment was made after consultation with the constitutional authorities specified in Article 217(1). The question of fixing responsibility on any one does not arise.

Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement

4434. SHRI V.GOPALSAMY :

SHRI T. R. BALU :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the year when the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement was signed;

(b) what are the details of clause of the agreement that have been successfully implemented so far;

(c) what are the clauses yet to be implemented; and

(d) what steps are being taken to get them implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) 1987

(b) and (c) The clauses which have been implemented in substantial measure include: (i) withdrawal of troops to pre May 25, 1987 positions; (ii) the withdrawal of the major component of the Special Task Force from the Eastern Province; (iii) setting up of Provincial Councils and holding of Provincial Council elections, in seven Provinces; (iv) release of a large majority of Tamil political prisoners; (v) amnesty to militants who lay down arms; (vi) enactment of necessary legislation and devolution of powers